GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:562
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
TIE UP WITH MEXICAN FIRMS
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any survey of tying-up with NAFTA countries in North America to enhance Indian exports;

(b) whether tie-ups with Mexican firms would offers excellent trade access with low tariff to the USA market;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any discussions have taken place with Mexican Government and Mexican Industry to study this potential;

(e) whether an overall strategy likely to be put in place for making a major entrance to NAFTA and nearby countries for exports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) (e) & (f) : NAFTA Zone is the world`s most powerful engine for global trade.The intra-NAFTA trade benefits from the preferential regime both from the viewpoint of tariff and non-tariff barriers. The Government has regularly been sensitizing the Indian companies about the long term linkages with NAFTA partner countries for improving market access for entire NAFTA region, to discuss with their counterparts cooperation in areas of particular interest to them and to facilitate an improvement in bilateral ties to the undertaking of joint projects to mutual benefits

(b) (c) & (d) : Mexico has certain advantages for being a relatively low cost economy and due to this it can play an important role to enhance our market access in the NAFTA.However, because of the origin rules, this advantage could only accrue through joint ventures or investments. This aspect has attracted attention of the Government of India and Indian businessmen have beensensitized for exploring long term ties with Mexican partners.